

# Famous Mysteries

## The Man Who Vanished

What became of Richard Ashurst? Was the postmaster of Philadelphia murdered and his body hidden somewhere along the seacoast or did he disappear of his own volition? If the latter, how was he, a cripple, able to completely cover all traces of his subsequent movements?

These are the questions which still remain unsolved after 11 years of searching by the police and private agencies; for the vanishing of Richard Ashurst at Atlantic City on January 29, 1911, still remains one of the most puzzling problems that ever presented itself for solution.

At the time of his disappearance, Mr. Ashurst was 72 years of age and one of the leading lawyers of Philadelphia, being vice-chancellor of the Law association and prominent in a number of other legal and social bodies. The most minute examination of his life failed to reveal the slightest reason either for his suicide or his voluntary retirement from public life. In fact, on the very evening that he was last seen, Mr. Ashurst wired from Atlantic City to the assistant postmaster at Philadelphia that he would be "back in the office tomorrow" and at the same time he telegraphed his wife that he had gone to Atlantic City unexpectedly, that he would return by the first train in the morning.

As investigations afterwards developed, Mr. Ashurst left his hotel about 5:45, secured a rolling chair and gave the negro "pusher" instructions to wheel him up the boardwalk to the Million Dollar Pier. He reached the pier at 9 o'clock, paid the chair man and leaning heavily on his cane, walked through the entrance toward the fax end of the structure. Nothing more has ever been seen of him from that day to this and the only clue ever found was the cane, picked up five days later, at one side of the pier.

Shortly after midnight on the night that his father disappeared Mr. Ashurst's son became alarmed and requested the police to make an immediate search of the city. Every hotel and boarding house was supplied with a description of the missing man, every railroad station was watched and every avenue of escape from the city carefully guarded—for the police

worked on the theory that Ashurst had either been murdered or that he had been kidnapped and was being held for ransom. Five days passed without the slightest indication of the missing man having been found and, during this time, local private and federal detectives had searched every inch of the pier, while life guards had dragged the waters in the vicinity. In spite of this, on the morning of the fifth day, Mr. Ashurst's cane, dry and unharmed, was found on the beach beside the pier in a spot which the authorities had examined scores of times. This served to strengthen the kidnapping theory, for the police felt certain that the walking-stick had been placed on the beach during the previous night, for it was practically impossible for it to have been there during the time that the search had been carried on.

The police of Philadelphia and other cities, as well as the postoffice inspectors, secret service operatives and coast guards, all joined in looking for the missing postmaster, but to no avail. Rumors were heard that the Ashurst disappearance was due to private worries, while others maintained that the affairs of the Philadelphia postoffice were not in the best of shape. All of these, however, were definitely and finally disproved and, when the case was at last docketed as "Unsolved," no one was able to advance the slightest reason for the voluntary disappearance or suicide of Mr. Ashurst, while after weeks had passed without any demand for ransom, the kidnapping theory was also shelved.

The members of the Ashurst family declined at all times to make any comment or statement about the affair, beyond the fact that, 17 days after the disappearance, they inserted a notice in the Philadelphia papers to the effect that the postmaster had died in Atlantic City on January 30, the day on which he vanished.

**Pittsburgh Goes to Constantinople**  
Washington, Nov. 8.—The cruiser Pittsburgh, flagship of Vice Admiral Long in command of American naval forces in European waters, has left Gibraltar for Constantinople "for essentials," the navy department announced today.

# WOMEN AND WRITINGS DISCUSSED IN PARIS

## French Do Not Hold That All Women Are Natural Enemies of Books.

(Continued from Special to Daily News.)  
Paris, Oct. 26.—As the women of Paris recently have been beating the men in competitions for places as librarians, a discussion has arisen over women's attitude towards books. Writers in general seem to agree that woman is the avowed enemy of books. This view, which will seem strange to Americans, is accepted by the French as a fact not necessary to discuss. They seek only to show why, and how greatly woman is hostile to books.

One of the principal publishers is quoted as saying that in the retail trade women constitute only one per cent. of buyers in France. Others dilate upon the difficulty their men friends have in keeping a library of fine books and in adding to the collection. Men's love of books, and women's dislike of them, are cited as having caused the break-up of many homes. M. de Bessacourt, author and booklover, holds it to be the duty of a bibliophile to remain a bachelor. He cites the cases of men who have to buy books secretly to avoid outbreaks of wrath from their spouses, and others who keep books hidden.

One Parisian booklover, says M. de Bessacourt, has purchased under his coat or in his pocket, meanwhile disarming his wife by holding out cake or candy to her at the front door in order to gain time to slip the volume on to the shelf unnoticed.

## Moscow Covering Up Scars Left By Bullets of Bolsheviks

Moscow, Oct. 8.—Putty and cement by the ton are being used in Moscow in an effort on the part of the government to blot out traces of the 1917 revolution. There is scarcely a house in the soviet capital which was not bullet marked, more or less, in the fighting, and some of the larger buildings were peppered with lead and steel from rifles, machine guns and shrapnel. With the last few weeks hundreds of workmen have been engaged in the task of filling the bullet holes with cement and putty, and in many instances the walls have been painted, thus wiping out the visible scars of the days of terror, which swept the Bolsheviks into power.

# 55 PERCENT DROP OUT OF THE HIGH SCHOOLS

## "Mortality" In School Attendance Worked Out by the State University.

### SWAMP STATE COLLEGES

(Special to Daily News.)  
Chapel Hill, Nov. 8.—The probable "mortality" in high school attendance in North Carolina—that is, the proportion of first-year students dropping out before the course is concluded—is being worked out in connection with the university's inquiry into secondary education.

Of the boys and girls who entered high schools in North Carolina in 1918, 55 per cent dropped out before graduation time in 1922. Or, expressed another way, 45 per cent stayed through.

Now there were 14,400 high school freshmen in the high schools last year, 1921-1922. If this same ratio of 45 per cent holds, then in 1925 there will be 6,480 graduates. Of course the ratio may be higher, since all through the state efforts are being made to expand high school facilities. It is pretty safe to assume that it will be no lower and that the 6,480 is a minimum.

This means an increase of 1,480 over the number of graduates this last June. The university's main purpose in making this forecast about the growth of secondary schools is to find out as accurately as possible what demands are to be made upon itself and upon other higher educational institutions in the state. These demands are being met by developing the educational system—legislators who appropriate, trustees who direct, those who seek gifts and those who make gifts for educational purposes.

It appears from the facts in hand that the institutions of higher education—both state-supported and denominational—are going to be hard put to it to take care of the young women and young men turned out by the high schools. The opportunity for passing from high school to college in North Carolina might be compared, for purposes of illustration, to the sudden narrowing of a thirty-foot highway, its whole width continuously filled with automobile, to a ten or twelve-foot highway. There is not room for all the travelers to go on. More than half of them have to abandon their cars by the roadside, get what comfort they can from the side of the road they have already had, and scatter across country on foot.

Of course not all the young men and young women who end their education with the high school do so because there is no room for them in the colleges and the university. Some do not want to go on. But an increasing number do enough to threaten to swamp the colleges.

Daniel L. Grant, who has been in charge of the inquiry for the university, obtained from 2900 high school graduates last summer answers to a question about their ambitions. He found that among the boys 70 per cent, among the girls 72 per cent, wanted to go on from high school to college. The average for both sexes was about 71 per cent. On this basis, in 1925 there will be 4,850 high school graduates desiring a college education, or 20 per cent more than the estimated 3760 who had the same desire this year.

## G. F. Duryea Pinned Under An Auto With Dead Man For Hour

(Special to Daily News.)  
Kinston, Nov. 8.—G. F. Duryea, who with Benjamin D. Taylor was pinned beneath a capized automobile at Stonington creek, five miles northeast of here, Monday night, Taylor being killed, spent an hour or two under the car, which was partly in the water, before he was rescued. Numerous automobiles passed over the highway within a few feet of where he lay with the dead Taylor. Duryea called for help frequently. No person heard him until long after the accident, when negroes rescued him. Duryea was in bad shape. His nerves had been "torn to pieces" by the experience. It appeared to coroner Eugene Wood, who arrived at the creek at 10 o'clock, just after the body of Taylor and the severely shocked Duryea had been taken from beneath the car, a small machine of a popular build. Duryea was conscious all the time that Taylor was dead or badly injured. His attempts to get his companion to speak brought no response. Duryea's feet were in the water. The engine rested upon Taylor's body.

According to the official version, Taylor and Duryea had been to Craven county on business. Returning to Snow Hill, where both men live, their lives were cut at a bend in the road near Stonington bridge. A moment later the car and men had gone off the road. Taylor, the coroner said, must have died instantly. Duryea was crushed. His skull was fractured. There was an ugly wound on one side of his face. Taylor, who was 48 years of age, is survived by his mother, brothers and other relatives in Craven county. Duryea, a contractor, was driving the car, according to the coroner's information.

## Imperial Prince Meese May Attend D. O. K. K. Ceremonial

(Special to Daily News.)  
Rocky Mount, Nov. 8.—Additional interest and significance to the institutional ceremonial of Zita temple No. 248, D. O. K. K., which is scheduled to take place here Thursday night, is the announcement made by local Doki leaders that Gus Meese, imperial prince, of Spokane, Wash., may be in attendance upon the ceremonies. Mr. Meese, who is making a tour of the country, was called over long distance telephone at Norfolk and advised members of the local committee that he had an engagement at Bluefield, W. Va., that might detain him but that he would get here to the ceremonial if possible.

In the meantime all arrangements for the affair, which is expected to bring approximately 500 visitors from eastern Carolina to the city, have been completed by the various committees in charge. More than 125 candidates are to take the Doki degree, while many prominent officials of the order are expected to be present. Earle McCausland, Past Grand Chancellor and Past Imperial Prince, of Charlotte, has been named as substituting officer in charge of the ceremonies here. The ceremonial will be put on by the newly organized divan of Zita temple. A Doki drum corps has also been organized here and will make its first public appearance in connection with the day's program.

MEDIUM BROWN HAIR looks best of all after a Golden Gilt Shampoo. Adv. 11-22 ex St. Mo.

# AUSTRALIA'S DEBT IS SHOWING AN INCREASE

## National Debt Is Over Three Billion More Now Than Before the World War.

(Continued from Special to Daily News.)  
Melbourne, Australia, Oct. 9.—In his annual speech to the house of representatives, Federal Treasurer Bruce, of Australia, disclosed that the Australian national debt on June 30 totalled \$4,210,000,000 as compared with a pre-war debt of \$1,595,000,000. During the course of his speech Mr. Bruce said: "The estimated revenue for 1922-23, totalling \$212,591,250, includes \$140,000,000 customs and excise; \$76,250,000 income tax, and \$48,250,000 post office, telephone and telegraph receipts.

"The estimated expenditure is \$310,118,400 showing an estimated surplus of \$2,472,750.

"Of the accumulated surplus, estimated at \$24,614,935, \$16,000,000 will be used in the reduction of taxation and the encouragement of agriculture and manufactures.

"The proposed remission of taxation includes the increase of the general exemption from \$250 to \$1000 for all taxpayers.

Mr. Bruce announced that legislation would be introduced in the near future to reduce the salary of members of the house of representatives from \$5000 to \$4000.

Speaking on the national debts Mr. Bruce declared: "The gross Commonwealth debt totalling \$2,080,252,545, shows an increase in the year ended June 30th amounting to \$71,752,420.

"The total national debt of Australia, including the Commonwealth and States is \$4,210,000,000, compared with the pre-war debt of only \$1,595,000,000."

## DRUGGIST MAKES GREAT DISCOVERY FOR INDIGESTION

Indigestion and its attendant ills such as dyspepsia, heartburn, sour stomach, griping pains, dysentery, diarrhoea, colic, cholera morbus, chronic constipation, gas, etc., and even sick, nervous headaches are directly traceable to disorders in the digestive organs and can now be quickly relieved with new cordial called "Anti-Perment" originated by a druggist and recommended by physicians.

The food sours before it is fully digested, thus putting into solution toxic poisons that are absorbed into the system, irritating the intestines and setting up inflammation. To avoid this, you simply have to prevent fermentation by using Anti-Perment.

Anti-Perment neutralizes the acid condition of the stomach, cleanses and sweetens the bowels, soothes and heals the inflamed intestines and increases the flow of gastric juices, giving quick and certain relief. Get a bottle of Anti-Perment from your druggist with a guarantee of satisfactory results or money returned. It will improve your appetite, give you restful sleep and make you feel better than you ever felt in your life. Adv.—hd.

## BLACKHEADS GO QUICK BY THIS SIMPLE METHOD

Blackheads—big ones or little ones—soft ones or hard ones—on any part of the body, go quick by a simple method that just dissolves them. To do this get about two ounces of colonic powder from your druggist—sprinkle a little on a hot, wet cloth—rub over the blackheads briefly for a few seconds—and wash off. You'll wonder where the blackheads have gone. Pinching and squeezing blackheads only open pores of the skin and leave them large and ugly—while the simple application of colonic powder and the water dissolves them right out, leaving the skin soft and the pores in their natural condition.

## This Boy Is Worth a Million Dollars

(With Apologies To the Current "Literary Digest")

Who is the boy?  
It is YOUR boy.  
You would refuse a million dollars for him—several times over.

What are you doing for that boy? Are you saving for his higher education? Are you saving to help him get started in business?  
ARE YOU TEACHING HIM TO SAVE?

This bank has hundreds of children who maintain regular savings accounts.  
We want these accounts; some day these little fellows will be our big customers.

Open an account for that boy; send him to us; we'll teach him how to transact his banking business.

**AMERICAN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK**  
—BRANCHES AT—  
**Greensboro National and South Greensboro**



## Walt Mason On "FLOORS"

"The Eskimo has floors of ice and probably he thinks them nice, and strictly up to date; but if there ever came a thaw they'd be the worst you ever saw, and that's as sure as fate.

"The Arab has his floor of sand; I have no doubt he thinks it's grand, a floor beyond compare; but sand is full of bugs and ants, and they climb up a fellow's pants, when he sits in a chair.

"The Mexican has floors of dirt, and floors of that sort will not hurt, so long as weather's dry; but when there comes a season wet such floors are not the one best bet, which no one can deny.

"In olden times men built their homes with battlements and towers and domes, and ornaments of gold; but all the floors were made of stone, and they made people sigh and groan, they were so hard and cold.

"And then with rushes they were strewn, to make them warmer to the shoon, and also to the feet; and those stale rushes would decay; their scent would drive the folks away, in agonized retreat.

"It took uncounted years of toil, and planning by the midnight oil to dope out modern floors; the floors on which we dance and walk, and sing and cuss and wildly talk of hoarders and such bores.

"The floors on which we spend our lives, and train our kids, and beat our wives, are surely handsome things; be they of color light or dark, we proudly view them and remark, 'They're good enough for kings.'

"Your mansion might have Jasper walls, the finest paintings in its halls that artists can produce, and onyx stairs and marble doors, but if it had no modern floors 'twould be a poor excuse.

"Good hardwood floors make life a pome; they beautify your happy home as nothing else can do; your lumber dealer has the best; the year's have given it the test that means so much to you."

Oak hardwood floors are not expensive. In a room 14x14 feet they cost only \$25—just \$2.50 more than rift pine. Phone 2310 or 2317 or write us at Greensboro, N. C.

**Oettinger Lumber Co.**

## Your Chance to Own a Home

### \$400 Cash—\$30 Month PLUS INTEREST

**If You Want An Attractive Bungalow on Almost Unheard of Terms, Don't Delay**

Several houses, just completed and now ready for the purchaser to move in, will be sold at the above price and on the easiest terms possible to offer. These houses will rent today for more than the monthly payment. People who are paying high rent can divert present rent money to this easy payment plan and at the rate of \$30 per month, plus interest, will pay off the entire cost in 10 years. And in the meantime enjoy all the privileges and the joy of home ownership, as well as the realization that money that was formerly going for rent is buying a home and helping to create an estate.

These houses are located near the Asheboro Street School and right at Douglas Park. Newly paved streets on each side. All have five rooms, with large bath room completely equipped, city water and electric lights. The lots have 50 feet frontage.

This section has developed as much as any section of Greensboro within the past year. Paved streets, sidewalks, etc., have helped in its growth. Dozens of new houses built within a radius of two blocks during the past year.

You'll probably never get an opportunity to buy an attractive and comfortable home with all modern conveniences and within the city limits at such a low price. And certainly not on such terms.

**Just a Limited Number—If You Want to Quit Paying Rent and Be the Owner, See Me At Once.**

Office Phone 1000

**A. B. JOYNER**

Residence Phone 2899-W